

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed this Application in light of the Office Action mailed November 4, 2003 (Paper No. 3). Claims 1-32 are pending in this Application. Claims 1-6 and 9-32 have been allowed. Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended Claims 7, 8 and 31 to further define various features of Applicants' invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite and failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants have amended Claims 7 and 8, and submit that Claims 7 and 8 now meet the requirement of section 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections to Claims 7 and 8 as amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate Examiner's careful review of the application and full allowance of Claims 1-6 and 9-32. Applicants further appreciate Examiner's indication that Claims 7 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as set forth in the Office Action. Applicants have amended Claims 7 and 8 and believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 7 and 8 as amended.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention that Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement on February 7, 2002. Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered and cited in the examination of the above-referenced application. Applicants attach a copy of the Information Disclosure

Statement and PTO Form 1449 filed February 7, 2002 for the Examiner's convenience and a copy of the postcard receipt evidencing receipt by the Patent Office.

CONCLUSION

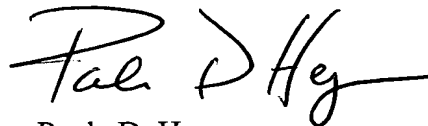
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's careful review of the application. Applicants have now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and full allowance of Claims 1-32, as amended.

Applicants believe there are no additional fees due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2581.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul D Hey", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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